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Approved For Release 2003/08/15 : CIA-RDP82-00457R0008200720012-3COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)REPORT NO. TOPIC Cottbus Airfield*Handwritten:*
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EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 16 July 1951REFERENCES PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) REMARKS

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SOURCE

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 1. On 7 June 1951, two PO-2 biplanes towed sleeve targets over Cottbus airfield at an altitude of about 300 meters. Heavy machine guns practiced firing at these sleeve targets.

2. Between 9 and 12 June, parachute jumps were repeatedly observed from PO-2 biplanes. A woman interpreter said that parachuting was practiced by flying personnel. Driving lessons were continually given at the field. Passenger car and trucks

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 entered and left the field. a unit of jet aircraft was expected to arrive at the field in June 1951.

 3. Between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. on 13 June, 26 twin-engine aircraft were parked in two rows, one opposite the other, in front of the hangars at the field. No jet planes were seen at the field. There was no flying although the weather was good. Truck was seen at the field. About 120 to 150 civilian laborers under the supervision of two Soviet soldiers were grading west of the runway. A deep E-W ditch was excavated in this area. Concrete pipes about 1 meter in diameter were stored nearby. No changes were observed on the runway and no new taxiways were built.

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4. On 13 June, 25 twin-engine aircraft with double rudder assemblies and nine biplanes were counted at the field. The biplanes towed sleeve targets at which firing was practiced with light AA guns. Passenger car trucks and large tank truck were seen at the field.

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5. At 9:30 a.m. on 10 June, five twin-engine Pe-2s took off from the field and headed south flying in formation. A short time later, another plane of the same type followed the formation. This plane towed a sleeve target. No jet planes were seen at the field. Construction work was still being done on the southwestern extension of the runway. The drainage system was not completed. Passenger car and trucks were seen in the vicinity of the field. *

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[redacted] Comment. The number and type of aircraft and the motor vehicle [redacted] that the airfield is still occupied by a bomber regiment equipped with PE-2s and some PO-2s. No jet aircraft have arrived at Cottbus airfield.

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